

Birthdays

Israel Marcella 11/7
Renard Brown 11/10
Jeremy Morris 11/12
Rob Odom 11/14
Carol Whitaker 11/14
Tracy Summar 11/16
Kaye Jernigan 11/21
Michael Bartlett 11/22
Paul Oliver 11/23
Terrence Thomas 11/23
Alvin Brandon 11/25
Keith Bratcher 11/25

City Holidays

MFRD Administrative Offices
will be closed on

Tuesday, November 11
(Veterans Day)

Thursday, November 27
Friday, November 28
(Thanksgiving Holiday)

If you need immediate
assistance, please visit MFRD
Headquarters at 202 E. Vine
Street or contact
615-849-2661.

FOURTEEN STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM MFRD'S 12TH SESSION OF THE CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY

Fourteen students graduated October 28 from the 12th Session of Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Citizens Fire Academy (CFA).

The students completed a six-weeks course in which they participated in activities that MFRD personnel perform on the job. Students donned turnout gear, experienced climbing a 65' aerial, practiced extrication, conducted a search and rescue using GPS and thermal imaging cameras, and much more.



Graduates of the class were: Chris Burlason, Christina Burlason, Vanessa Coates, Robert Deocales, Tracy Deocales, Gena Burns-Harrison, Lauren Harrison, Amrith Kahlon, Erin Kuhn, William McCormick, Chad McMurray, Vanessa McMurray, Nicholas Pitman, and Valerie Pitman.

"This particular CFA group was unique because there were several pairs of family members," said CFA Coordinator Laurie Alsup. "The Burlasons and Deocales are spouses," she said, "and the Harrisons, McMurrays, and Pitmans are parents and children."

Vanessa McMurray was very thankful for this experience for her son, Chad, who has special needs. "I never dreamed he would be able to do the things he did with the Citizens Fire Academy," she said. "He climbed a 65' aerial and the MFRD personnel were right behind him...holding him, coaching him every step of the way. He loved being a part of everything. The compassion that they showed not just Chad, but all of us in the class, brings tears to my eyes."

Gena Burns-Harrison commented on taking the class with her daughter, Lauren, "My daughter and I have had an incredibly unique mother-daughter bonding time. CFA is an experience that, I submit, neither of us will forget. While we have always been explorers, investigators, and researchers, this experience has broadened our horizons and opened our eyes. It has made us contemplate things we had never previously considered." Burns-Harrison also said she expects her husband and son will want to follow in their footsteps and apply for next year's CFA.

At the graduation ceremony, students enjoyed one last meal with their instructors before receiving a certificate of completion, a class photo, and a DVD with pictures from their experience.

"This group has become a part of our MFRD family," said Alsup. "Many of the graduates spoke about their appreciation for what our Firefighters do. They now realize that these men and women spend hours away from their families, have an intensely physical job, and are faced with many dangers. I hope they are able to share that with others."

The Citizens Fire Academy is held in the fall of each year. The CFA offers a small group of area residents the opportunity to view and participate in activities and services provided by MFRD. Information regarding upcoming classes is generally released each July. If you would like to know more about the Citizens Fire Academy, contact MFRD Fire Administration Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm at 615-893-1422 or visit www.murfreesborotn.gov/fireacademy. *The course is not employment related.

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FOUR LOCAL HEROES RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL CRIME/FIRE PREVENTION AWARDS LUNCHEON

Four local heroes were recognized at Murfreesboro Noon Exchange Club's Annual Crime and Fire Prevention Awards Luncheon on October 23 at Five Senses.

Sergeant Shawn Applegate from Rutherford County Sheriff's Office, Firefighter Austin Garner from Rutherford County Fire-Rescue, Detective Larry Maples from Murfreesboro Police Department, and Firefighter Joseph Pennington from Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department received plaques from the Noon Exchange Club after being nominated by their respective agencies.

According to his nomination letter, Sergeant Applegate, of the Interstate Crime Enforcement Unit, was patrolling on Interstate 24 in January 2013 when he stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. His K-9 partner indicated the presence of drugs. Sgt. Applegate investigated and recovered about \$300,000 worth of stolen jewelry. He also learned that the driver was wanted on aggravated robbery charges in California. After he and a deputy testified in the offender's trial, the offender was sentenced to 35 years in prison. A routine DNA test linked the offender to a double murder in Minneapolis, and he was indicted in July 2014 on four counts of first-degree murder and two counts of second-degree murder. The letter also stated, "Besides the investigation of the traffic stop, Sgt. Applegate shows his professionalism and dedication every day and motivates the deputies in the ICE unit to higher standards."



Firefighter Austin Garner was assigned to a Rutherford County Fire-Rescue Vehicle Rescue Unit on September 13, 2014. He responded to a motorcycle accident with injuries. Once he was on scene, Garner began emergency medical care to one of the two patients. He continued to assist paramedics when they arrived on scene and also assisted in transporting the patient to a local hospital, where the patient was loaded onto a LifeFlight helicopter. "Austin's quick response in providing immediate emergency medical care...was instrumental in keeping the patient alive," it read in his nomination. "He routinely receives praise from his peers for his performance on the scene of emergencies and has gained a reputation for being a solid performer under pressure."

Detective Larry Maples was selected to represent Murfreesboro Police Department as Officer of the Year for "working tirelessly to solve some of Murfreesboro's most recent high profile crimes such as the robbery of Demo's Restaurant, the extensive vandalism at Haynes Lumber, multiple robberies at Mapco, and the double murder at Wal-Mart on Old Fort Parkway," read the nomination letter from Chief Glenn Chrisman. Maples was also commended by Sergeant Wayne Lawson for being "a true believer in the team approach to investigating" and "an extraordinary member of the Murfreesboro Police Department."

Firefighter Joseph Pennington was nominated by Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department for his assistance with acquiring the "latest and greatest equipment for the department" and for his "commitment to providing the most progressive services to the citizens of Murfreesboro." For the past several years, Pennington has served on the department's Fire Apparatus Spec Committee. During that time, he spent countless hours proposing, planning, pricing, ordering, and organizing equipment for six apparatus, one medium rescue, and two heavy rescues. Each time new apparatus were ordered, Pennington served as a liaison between the department and equipment vendors, which proved to be a labor-intensive process. Pennington was also instrumental in acquiring hazardous materials equipment for the department's Hazmat Response Trailer. His planning and placement of the equipment has made for quick and efficient deployment to hazardous materials incidents. His nomination letter read, "Joe's dedication to the department is truly appreciated, as well as the hard work he puts in both on and off duty. He is just another one of the city's employees that is helping to 'create a better quality of life.'"

"The Crime and Fire Prevention Awards are a way to honor those who serve our community," said Don Wright, Immediate Past National President of the Exchange Club, "and it is an honor for the exchange club to recognize them for their service."

The Murfreesboro Noon Exchange Club (America's Service Club) is a group of men and women working together to make the community a better place to live through programs of service in Americanism, Community Service, Youth Activities, and the Prevention of Child Abuse.

Pictured above (L to R): Detective Larry Maples, Sergeant Shawn Applegate, Noon Exchange Club Member Rebecca Talley, Firefighter Joseph Pennington, and Firefighter Austin Garner.

CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY GRADUATION CONTINUED...



Front Row (L to R): Valerie Pitman, Erin Kuhn, Christina Burlason, Lauren Harrison, Amrith Kahlon, Vanessa McMurray, and Chad McMurray.
Back Row (L to R): Chief Cumbey Gaines, Robert Deocales, Tracy Deocales, Chris Burlason, Gena Burns-Harrison, Nicolas Pitman, Vanessa Coates, and Deputy Chief Roger Toombs. Not pictured: William McCormick



*Mother & Daughter
Gena Burns-Harrison & Lauren
Harrison*

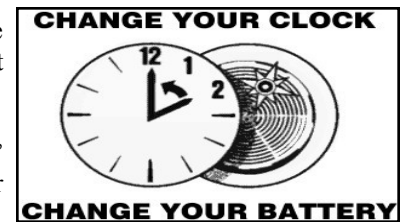


*Mother & Son
Vanessa & Chad McMurray*

CHANGE YOUR CLOCK/CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 am...time to set your clocks back one hour. It's not just about gaining an extra hour of sleep, Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department wants to remind you that it's also a great time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms!

"Batteries in smoke alarms should be changed twice a year, approximately every six months," said Assistant Fire Marshal Tracy Summar. "A great trick to remembering is to change your batteries when you change your clock each Fall and each Spring."



If you need assistance with changing your batteries or need additional smoke alarms in your home, contact MFRD Fire Administration Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm at 615-893-1422 to take advantage of Project S.A.F.E. "Smoke Alarms for Everyone." MFRD offers free smoke alarms/installation to the citizens of Murfreesboro, even specialty alarms for the hearing or visually impaired.

Remember, you should have smoke alarms on every level of your home including the basement, in every bedroom, and outside sleeping areas. Smoke alarms should also be tested monthly.

"Having working smoke alarms in your home is extremely important," said Summar. "It can cut your risks of fire-related death in half."

Here's a public service announcement from the City of Murfreesboro to remind you to "Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries": <http://youtu.be/gLI4O7DQNsY>.

CHAD DAVIS NAMED FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH

Firefighter Chad Davis was named Firefighter of the Month for November 2014. Davis constantly receives praise from supervisors and co-workers for his hard work and willingness to assist in various aspects of the department (Fire Prevention, Honor Guard, COMBAT Challenge Team). Most recently, Davis was a primary instructor for the MFRD Honor Guard's first-ever "Honor Guard Introductory Course" at the Tennessee Fire and Codes Enforcement Academy in September.

Davis has been with MFRD since June 2012.



"KNOW YOUR HEROES" NOVEMBER

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department announces "Know Your Heroes" November, a project that will allow MFRD's Facebook friends to learn interesting tidbits about individual members of the department.

During the month of November, MFRD will post pictures and small bios of participating employees. Employees share their name, rank, years of service, special certifications and committees, hobbies, most interesting emergency call, favorite firehouse meal, and one "fun fact" about themselves.

"Know Your Heroes" NOVEMBER

Carl Peas, Assistant Fire Marshal
26 Years of Service

Certified Fire Investigator; Public Fire & Life Safety Educator; Tennessee Fire & Codes Enforcement Academy Instructor; Safe Kids Child Safety Seat Instructor; MFRD's Child Safety Seat Program Coordinator

Hobbies: Golfing & watching football and basketball... I'm a huge UK fan. "Go Wildcats!"

Most Interesting Emergency Call: "I got called to MTSU to shut down a Garth Brooks concert because they lit the stage on fire during his performance of 'Standing Outside the Fire.'"

Favorite Firehouse Meal: Captain/Shift Inspector Nora Smith's homemade chili

FUN FACT: During my career at MFRD, I've met many celebrities, including: Jon Bon Jovi, Garth Brooks, Faith Hill, Tim McGraw, Alan Jackson, Lady Antebellum, Jason Aldean, and Rod Stewart.



November Anniversaries

29 YEARS
Randy Rae

27 YEARS
John Avaritt
Mike Mitchell

26 YEARS
Kyle Cobb
Jeff Day
Carl Peas
Kaye Jernigan

19 YEARS
Hunter Fite
Jeremy McCullough
Tim Rowlett
Wade Williams

13 YEARS
Tim Corder

2 YEARS
Matthew Twomey



If you notice MFRD personnel providing exemplary service, displaying professionalism, or representing the City of Murfreesboro in a positive light, please share your experience by nominating them for a Service Excellence Stars Award.

Click here for more information or to [Nominate a STAR.](#)

Connect with Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department on [Facebook](#) to learn more about the heroes that serve the City of Murfreesboro!

MFRD HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEADQUARTERS

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department hosted an Open House on Saturday, October 25.

MFRD opened their doors to the community to commemorate the building's 50th anniversary. Many kids and adults received fire station tours, got an insider's view of the fire apparatus, experienced the Fire Safe House, and met some of the men and women that serve their City.

"We were thrilled to have such a large turnout," said Headquarters' Captain/Shift Inspector Nora Smith. "We estimate that at least 50-60 people came during the course of the event. We appreciate all those who celebrated with us."



Headquarters History

In 1964, the now existing Headquarters located at 202 East Vine Street was built. The old building was demolished after completion to allow for MFRD's flagpole and patch of grass on the corner of East Vine and South Spring Streets. The architect on the project was Burney Tucker. Plans were completed May 7, 1964 and sometime between then and December, the job was bid, the specs were approved, and the building was built. Since then, the building has undergone two significant renovations. In the early 1990s, the City added wheelchair ramps and a handicapped accessible bathroom to bring the building into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. More recently, the City added a women's locker room for use by female firefighters by remodeling the firefighter's sleeping area.



CARLIE MAELYN LIDDELL

DAUGHTER OF DUSTIN & DORA

BORN: OCTOBER 21, 2014

AT 7 LBS / 1 OZ

19" LONG

